

Annual Report
of
National Drug Headquarters
2004

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS IN THE FIELD OF DRUGS

The National Drug Headquarters (Národní protidrogová centrála - NPC) of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service is a specialised unit of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the CR Police with nation-wide competence in the Czech Republic. Among the main tasks of the NPC is the search for, detection, documentation and investigation of especially organised drug crime. Due to the current organisational structure of the NPC operational work places - central ones in Prague and branches in the seats of the Regional Police Administrations (České Budějovice, Plzeň, Ústí nad Labem, Hradec Králové, Brno and Ostrava) it is possible to respond in a more effective way to the structure and dynamics of organised crime in the Czech Republic, which currently uses not only the most sophisticated communication technologies, but also has been able to adjust very guickly to the new situation in Europe after the entry of the Czech Republic and other countries into the European Union. The EU enlargement has brought along and will bring along an ever more significant dismantling of barriers among European nations, but hand in hand with these positive elements one can expect the promotion of organised crime activities in the international sphere as well. The field of illicit production and trafficking in drugs is a very varied, structured, dynamic and very dangerous form of organised crime and due to its fatal repercussions – devastation of health of tens of thousands of people and the creation of huge illegal profits can significantly threaten the bases of democratic society itself. Search for, detection and especially documentation and proceedings evidence of such criminal activity is very complex, lengthy and apart from a professional approach and ceaseless efforts of security forces members, it requires flexible response not merely in the field of the forms and methods of police work but also in the system of organisation, management and preventive activity within the Czech Republic Police.

Following an in-depth analysis at the NPC central operational work places, considerable reorganisation was carried out in 2004, during which smaller, specialised departments were integrated into two larger organisational units. The aim of this reorganisation is to make possible the integration of forces and means, the ability to respond flexibly to the changes in the perpetration of drug related criminal activity by organised groups of offenders, the creation of case teams – task forces and aiming of activities at the most serious forms of organised drug related criminal activity.

Another important, thus far not implemented measure, which could improve the conditions and in the final stage also the results of the fight against drug crime, is the model of line management in this field, which would do away with the dispersion of forces, means and concrete targeting especially at the level of units with territorial jurisdiction. This model continues to remain in the NPC focus as one of the possible enhancements in fulfilling the tasks of the Police of the CR in the area of decreasing the offer of narcotic and psychotropic substances (NPS) within the national strategy of counter-drug policy of the Czech Republic.

Characteristics of the Current State of Drug Abuse and Drug Crime in the Czech Republic

The situation in the abuse of illegal narcotic dugs and drug crime in the territory of the Czech Republic in 2004 can be characterised especially by the following facts:

- 1. Narcotic and psychotropic substances, especially marijuana, ecstasy and pervitin have spread also into smaller towns and villages. Marijuana smoking is no longer considered by a large part of young people as drug abuse but part and parcel of everyday life and a form of relaxation.
- 2. In connection with the habitual and biased media coverage of the drug problem in the Czech Republic, as, e.g., the division of drugs into soft and hard or the support of some activities bordering on the verge of crime, as the survey terrain testing of ecstasy tablets for the presence of the MDMA substance, especially young people are becoming increasingly tolerant towards marijuana and ecstasy.
- 3. Despite partial successes of the Czech Republic's counter-drug policy in the field of prevention and repression, as the halting of the growth of the numbers of drug users with the most serious health risks (heroin, pervitin), the abuse of cannabis drugs and ecstasy is becoming an ever more serious problem in the society.
- 4. There are a growing number of detected hydroponically cultivating premises of the so-called scunk marijuana with a large content of the effective THC substance.
- 5. In some areas of the Republic, above all in Northern Bohemia and in the Ostrava industrial region, the number of users of volatile substances is not decreasing. Experiments occur with new regularly available substances of the type of Poppers, Speed 8, etc.
- 6. In connection with the entry of the Czech Republic into the EU, the permeability of borders also for illegal drug deliveries can be expected due to the abolition of customs controls.
- Not merely the organised crime offenders due to making their detection more difficult devote considerable effort to changing the ways of carrying out their criminal activity.
- 8. Organised crime in the field of trafficking in NPS in the Czech Republic carried out by different ethnic and national minorities has been marked by specific aspects, an operational exchange of commodities aimed at the increase of profits, use of violence, etc., and its detection is under the current unchanged state of the Czech Republic's asylum and migration policy very complicated.

- The seizure of assets from criminal activity has become a positive and significant measure within the documentation of criminal activity in the field of drugs.
- 10. The differences in the quality of the individual drugs in relation to a certain level of the distribution net are becoming more pronounced. The NPS seized from the Roma ethnic minority and the Vietnamese are of the lowest quality (the content of active substance), on the other hand, there is a growing content of active substances in deliveries from abroad.
- 11. More sophisticated conspiratory measures on the part of NPS producers and distributors lead to a minimum possession of a drug, the use of minor age distributors, of the so called drops, etc.
- 12. Criminal structures have continued to use sophisticated technology for communication, the Internet, they prefer personal meetings, many offenders have been using several phone stations at the same time, especially mobile phones, or different SIM cards with prepaid calls and the services of all operators of mobile nets at one time, etc.

II. TRAFFIC IN HEROIN



A leading position in the traffic in heroin in the territory of the Czech Republic has been maintained by the Kosovo – Albanian community. However, a closer link with persons from Bulgaria, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and Turkey has been marked especially in connection with the use of couriers. There has been a growing activity of Turkish criminal structures, which have been using the Czech

Republic mainly as a transit country for the traffic in heroin or a country where the division of larger deliveries into smaller ones takes place, which are then sent into the target country. In the heroin deliveries, which have been seized (also in relation to distribution abroad), the concentration of the content of active substance in the mixture has decreased. The deliveries are transported in smaller amounts of approximately 1 to 3 kilograms. Thus, financial losses at seizure are kept lower.

III. TRAFFIC IN COCAINE

The main discernable change is the trend to have a larger number of smaller consignments sent from South America. These substitute huge, hundred kilogram or larger shipments typical for the previous period. A reoccurring phenomenon is currently the import of cocaine into the Czech Republic in the digestive tract. Czech nationals from socially weaker groups have been involved in this activity. Cocaine is imported from the Netherlands and its former colonies and the source regions of

South America. Cocaine is gradually becoming popular with a larger number of users and it can be expected that the demand will result in the decrease of its street price and a further increase in the number of users.

Lately there has been a growing number of cocaine shipments along the so called Balkans route dispatched by ethnic Albanians or Turks.

IV. TRAFFIC IN CANNABIS

The content of THC in marijuana plants has been increasing. This is due to the growing quality of cross breeding as well as the improvement of hydroponic cultivation. The seeds can be ordered on the Internet from the Netherlands or they can be directly imported from there. With the opening of the borders within the EU the demand for a good quality and reasonably priced marijuana has increased and therefore the cultivators in the Czech Republic have to adjust to such trends. There has also been a growing offer of hydroponic cultivation aids, which are misused for marijuana growing. Last year officers of the NPC together with members of the Unit for the Detection of Organised Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police of the CR (ÚOOZ) seized altogether 3 hydroponic marijuana growing facilities in the vicinity of Prague, which belonged to a group of people involved in NPS and firearms trafficking. The plant growing facilities were sophisticated and the estimated costs of the equipment the offenders had to invest into have been about 2 million CZK.

Some current findings point to growing imports of hashish to Europe from Asia, especially Nepal, India and Thailand. Czech nationals have been involved in the import also at the level of organisers.

Operation "MAUR"

In connection with the preparations and the holding of the illicit CzechTek techno-party a 25 year old Slovak national permanently residing in the CR was detained in Prague on the night of August 2nd, 2004. The detained man had smuggled from Spain in his digestive tract in the course of a fortnight almost a kilogram of hashish. He sold part of the drug through a 26 year old Czech national at the CzechTek techno party. The man was detained by the members of the National Drug Headquarters in Plzeň at the same time as the above mentioned Slovak. About 700g of high quality hashish in the value of 200 000 CZK were seized during a house-search.

V.

TRAFFIC IN METAMPHETAMINE AND EPHEDRINE

Metamphetamine

Metamphetamine (pervitin) has been for a number of years the most popular stimulation drug in the Czech Republic. It is a synthetic drug with similar effects as cocaine, while the price of metamphetamine is much lower. It is mostly Czech

nationals who are involved in the production of metamphetamine, and only exceptionally other nationals, who in most cases reside legally in the territory of the Czech Republic. Metamphetamine production prevails especially in smaller quantities in home laboratories, the so-called "boiling houses", only rarely are there professionally equipped laboratories. Metamphetamine distribution is organised by different groups of offenders, both by Czech nationals including the Roma ethnic minority as well as Russian speaking groups and persons from former Yugoslavia, by Bulgarians, Arabs, etc.

The metamphetamine purity on the black market depends in many cases on the purity of the precursor used for metamphetamine production. In case pervitin is produced from ephedrine it is usually purer than in case of its production from medicaments containing ephedrine or pseudo-ephedrine, as are the freely sold MODAFEN, NUROFEN or PARALEN PLUS. At the same time, we have to state that the pureness of the distributed or exported drug depends on the demands by the organisers of metamphetamine production. Therefore, 90% pure metamphetamine is no exception.

The most frequently used substance for the dilution of metamphetamine was again in 2004 PIRACETAM contained in the freely sold medicament KALIKOR.

The developments on the drug scene were marked in 2004 by the oscillation of ephedrine accessibility on the black market. This resulted, the same as in the previous years, in the increase of metamphetamine production from easily available, freely sold medicaments.

In 2004 and 2005 NPC officers had investigated a case where a larger amount of metamphetamine was seized, which during chemical tests showed that it had not been made out of ephedrine or pseudo-ephedrine but the BMK (P-2-P) substance had been used as a precursor. Pervitin production out of BMK is exceptional in the Czech Republic, but these trends have to be followed, because in connection with the increasing lack of ephedrine on the black market the drug scene could move in that direction.

Prices of metamphetamine distributed to direct customers amounted in the year 2004 to about 1000 CZK per g (i.e. 100 CZK per one dose with a declared quantity of 100 mg) with regular oscillations caused by a momentary lack of ephedrine on the black market. The mentioned "street" price is for an amount of about up to 5g of metamphetamine. The price of a larger amount of metamphetamine then goes down according to the quantity purchased. In 2004 the price of 1 kg of metamphetamine ranged between 500 to 650 CZK/g, the price around 400 CZK/g was no exception either. It can be stated that metamphetamine prices have been stagnating over the past few years. Changes have taken place only during the lack of precursor for its production.

In the field of metamphetamine exports, there has been a growing preference of the drug in the neighbouring countries, especially in the Federal Republic of Germany. Metamphetamine has been known in the FRG under the name of "KRYSTAL", as it is illegally exported from the Czech Republic in the form of pure white crystals. During the year 2004, NPC officers marked also cases of

metamphetamine and other chemical substances exports for its production to Slovakia.

In 2004 there has been a marked tendency of a growing demand for metamphetamine, especially in the neighbouring states due to its growing preference on the European drug scene.

Operation "RADEGAST"

During an operation on November 23rd, 2004 in the area of Ostrava an illegal metamphetamine producer, followed for a long period of time, believed to have contacts with an organised group of offenders importing ephedrine from the countries of former Yugoslavia, was detained. This man was to have produced Metamphetamine, which was then distributed in Prague to other persons. The detention was carried out by police officers from the response unit of the North Moravian Police Administration.

One kilogram of good quality metamphetamine, 100 g of cocaine and half a million Czech Crowns were seized during house searches. Out of the metamhetamine seized it would have been possible to prepare for street distribution as many as 20,000 doses of the drug the price of which would reach some two million Czech Crowns on the black market. It would have been possible to make out of the seized cocaine as many as two thousand doses in the value of quarter of a million CZK. Further seized during the house searches were objects and chemical substances for metamphetamine production. The detained man had been accused of the crime of Illicit production and possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances and poisons pursuant to provisions of Section 187, subsection 1,2, a) of the Criminal Code.

Ephedrine

In 2004, ephedrine was not readily available all through the year. This was caused especially by the termination of ephedrine production in the factory of the ICN Company in Roztoky u Prahy. In the first half of 2004, ephedrine from the illegal leaks from the stocks of the above mentioned factory was available but after the liquidation of the stocks by the ICN company staff, this fact became immediately evident on black market. In relation to this state, there has been a growing abuse of medicaments containing pseudoephedrine and ephedrine for the metamphetamine production. This concerns freely sold as well as prescribed medicaments.

During the year 2004 information on the imports of ephedrine by organised crime groups from the countries of former Yugoslavia were confirmed. Furthermore, organised import of medical ephedrine from the FRG was detected as well as import of ephedrine by Czech citizens from Bulgaria. Currently the price of ephedrine has grown to 250 CZK per gram, which with the traditionally large demand for this precursor amounts to a considerable financial profit for persons involved in organising the imports and the sale of ephedrine in the Czech Republic.

TRAFFIC IN SYNTHETIC DRUGS AND OTHER PRECURSORS

Ecstasy

In 2004, a growth was marked in the number of synthetic drug users, especially of XTC (ecstasy) tablets. Ecstasy is available at a majority of dance and music productions and in clubs. Its price had been going down. In case of the purchase of individual tablets, it was around 100 to 250 CZK per one tablet, in cases of hundreds of tablets the price was around 80 CZK per tablet and in cases of thousands it was between 40 to 60 CZK per one tablet. The purchase price of an XTC tablet when buying over several thousand pieces abroad (concerns mostly the Netherlands and Belgium) ranged between 1€ and less. The decrease of the quantity of active substance (MDMA, MDA, MDEA, etc.) has been a continuing trend. Among the source countries are still the Netherlands, Belgium, Poland and Bulgaria.

Among the logos marked most often in 2004 were the Pyramid. Mitsubishi, Butterfly, Stars, Crosses, Heart, Tasmanian Devil (yellow, red and green colours), Lozenge (white colour), "MX" (pinkish colour).

The tablets contained on an average some 20-35% of MDMA, or around 24% of MDEA. The average values of the tablets on the basis of a report from the Prague Institute of Criminalistics amounted to:

- diameter 8.5 mm,
- weight 213.7 mg,
- MDMA content 31.9 40.8 mg/tab

The most frequent additive of the tablet was lactose and talk, the active substance was combined with caffeine. It is mostly Czech nationals who have been involved in the traffic in ecstasy, most of them men between the age of 18 and 35. Its consumers were mostly young people in the age group between 15 to 28.

Operation "REJHA"

During an operation, which took place in the city of Liberec on January 20th, 2004 and at other places in the Liberec region, three men of the age between 27 to 39 years were detained, who had been involved in the above mentioned region in the organisation of XTC tablet distribution. During ensuing activities 9,000 pieces of XTC tablets were seized (Mouth and Tasmanian Devil logo) and steps were taken for the seizure of cash amounting to more than 500,000 CZK. All the detained persons were accused of the crime of Illicit production and possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances and poisons pursuant to provisions of Section 187, subsection 1,2, a) of the Criminal Code.

Operation "QUICK"

During the operation which took place on April 28th, 2004 near Holiday Inn Hotel in Prague 4, a 35 year old man was detained when selling a large amount of XTC tablets, when one tablet was being sold for the amount of 3€. It was



later found out that the man was not new to the scene of drug transactions, because he was prosecuted in the past in Italy for the illegal import of 10 kg of heroin and was sentenced to five years by an Italian court. And not long after he had been set free he was detained in the Czech Republic due to the sale of XTC

tablets. During the detention of the offender, NPC police officers seized altogether 10,000 pieces of XTC tablets and cash in the overall value of 36, 000€. The detained person was together with his three accomplices accused of the crime of Illicit manufacture and possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances and poisons pursuant to provisions Section 187, subsection 1,2 a) of the Criminal Code.

Operation "HAIM-PITKIN"

A group of persons – citizens of the Czech Republic and Israel were active in the territory of the Czech Republic organizing the purchase of XTC tablets in different European countries and later on smuggled the drug into the US under the



direct and active assistance of Czech nationals with long term residence in the US. In Los Angeles, the XTC tablets were taken over by a group of offenders led by a 29 year old Israeli citizen. During the investigation carried out in the US under the title "Money Man" according information from DEA Los Angeles, 90.7kgs of XTC tablets were seized. Altogether 9 persons were detained in the territory of the US including the 29 year old

head of the organisation. On September 13th, 2004 two Czech citizens were detained in the Austrian town of Gratz when accepting cash for the sale of more than 13,000 pieces of XTC tablets, which had taken place on the same day in the US. The two men in question were a 44 year old entrepreneur and successful car racer and a 50 year old entrepreneur. On September 14th, 2004 a 30 year old Israeli citizen was arrested in the Zlatý Anděl (Golden Angel) shopping centre at Smíchov. It was an entrepreneur who was the organiser of the whole group. Specialists from the US, the Netherlands, Israel and Belgium cooperated on this operation.

Precursors and medicaments

Within the entry of the Czech Republic into the European Union on May 1st, 2004 the Act No. 167/1998 Coll., On Addictive Substances was amended. The Ministry of Health in the Czech Republic issues to companies merely permissions for handling precursors. Trading between the individual entities in the Czech Republic

and within the Member states is not regulated. The individual cases of selling the precursors are "dealt with" within the Czech Republic and the EU by a mere sending of an affidevit of the end user saying that the substance would not be used for drug production.

In the framework of trade between the EU and third countries (non-EU states), this has been regulated by the EC Regulation No. 3677/1990, which determines the procedure for the sale of precursors into these states. The competent authority of the relevant state issues only export permission.

On August 18th, 2005 another EC Regulation under the No. 211/2005 shall come into force which will change trade regulations between the EU member states and third countries – import permission shall be issued for the community states, as well. The Czech Republic responds to those changes through an amendment to Act No. 167/1998 Coll. (issuance of import permit to the third states).

Act No. 167/1998 Coll., has been and shall be amended on the basis of the entry of the Czech Republic into the European Union, if the European Union carries out any changes. EU Regulations are for the Czech Republic obligatory and have to be worked into the national legislature.

A similar situation exists in the field of the control of additive substances. These firms are merely registered with the Health Ministry in the Czech Republic as firms handling such substances, inner controls in the states have been, the same as with the case of precursors, removed upon the Czech Republic entering the European Union.

On the basis of the above mentioned facts the NPC activity in the field of precursors and additive substances is aimed at the creation of control and monitoring system for specific precursors, additive substances and medicaments in cooperation with the Health Ministry, Inspectorate for Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances, production and distribution companies in the Czech Republic, with members of the Chemical Industry Union, the Czech Association of Pharmaceutical firms, based on an agreement on voluntary cooperation between the chemical and pharmaceutical industry with the NPC on the basis of the Memorandum of Mutual Cooperation and last but not least in cooperation with the General Customs Directorate of the Ministry of Finance (GŘC)

The aim of this activity is above all the monitoring and control of the movement of precursors and additive substances into/out of the Czech Republic and especially the prevention of the possibility of misuse of those chemicals for the illegal manufacture of synthetic and semi-synthetic drugs.

VII.

CRIMINAL GROUPS INVOLVED IN NPS TRAFFIC

Arabic Criminal Structures

In compliance with the demand of the market, the Arabic ethnic organisations show a growing activity to provide an offer of all types of NPS – usually with the exception of metamphetamine. There is a great prevalence of traffic in heroin and hashish.

A dominant group in the ranks of Arabic origin offenders has been that of North Africans, especially citizens of Tunisia and Algeria, who specialise mostly in the traffic in heroin.

Unlike the past, there has been a marked decrease of activities of Arabic criminal structures in the so-called NPS street traffic. One of the reasons may be that in 2002 a large part of the Arabic origin offenders sharing in this form of drug crime were detained and later on sentenced to considerably high prison terms. Other reasons are the limited possibilities of acquiring NPS from sources "on credit", gradual substitution of Arabic NPS dealers by aggressive Roma groups, or a growing interest in substitutes of heroin, which the Arab groups do not have at their disposal.

Some Arabic criminal groups, especially from the Middle East cooperate and participate within international criminal gangs in the illegal import and traffic in hashish in Europe, especially in Holland. Also Czech nationals have been engaged by them for different positions in those activities.

The traffickers have more often transferred the cash – profit from NPS traffic abroad, especially through Western Union branches, or they invest in the purchase of used cars, which they then export through Italy to Tunisia and from there to Libya, where they sell them due to the existing embargo with profit.

The groups are becoming more ethnically defined, unlike the past they do not allow into their structures, with some exceptions, the end consumers — Czech nationals. There are also closer links with the Roma groups who dispose of their own distribution channels.

West African Criminal Structures

The most sophisticated form of drug crime activity marked in the Czech Republic among the West African immigrants is the organisation of drug transport by couriers. The West African as an organiser, himself or with the assistance of Czech citizens wins over "couriers", organises their trip and stay in the source area as well as the taking over of the transported drug in the target destination. Couriers have been recruited from the environment of persons with low social status, from regions with high unemployment, or from the environment of the organisers' girl-friend partners.

Kosovo Albanian Criminal Structures

The Kosovo Albanians trafficking in NPS no longer concentrate solely on heroin but there is also interlinking with the domestic pervitin producers and they are involved in cocaine traffic, as well. There has been a clear-cut atomisation of the Albanian groups. The individual cells are willing in order to hold to the traffic and increase their profits to the maximum to cooperate with anybody. Frauds are ever more frequent when the persons dilute heroin into a form no longer suitable for traffic. Within the internal distribution of heroin, they have links with the Arabs, Vietnamese and persons of Roma origin.

VIII.

REGIONAL SPECIFICS OF NPS TRAFFIC IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

THE CAPITAL CITY OF PRAGUE

(Department for the Detection of Serious General Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service (OOZOK SKPV) of the Administration of the Capital City of Prague)

The capital city of Prague has been holding a leading position in the field of drug crime among the individual regions of the Czech Republic. The areas the most frequented by the traffic and abuse of drugs are in the city centre, where there is a high concentration of persons and the possibility of the anonymity of NPS dealers and users. Among the other problem—creating localities are housing complexes, where groups of young people are centred and there is a greater occurrence of drug abuse and further related criminal activity, especially of a property character. On the whole, the distributing and consummation of NPS is spreading into all territorial parts of the capital city of Prague including the outskirts.

The organisation and conspiracy involved in the distribution of the NPS has improved, dealers operate from private apartments and other buildings and from entertainment facilities. During street traffic the trend of minimum possession of the NPS by the dealer continues, as well as the hiring of other persons for the NPS distribution, the so-called intermediaries, who sell drugs to other persons on behalf of the dealer. Producers and distributors of NPS enhance their conspiracy measures by trafficking drugs on the phone. They use solely mobile phones and prepaid TWIST, GO and OSKAR cards, which they often change or use the Internet for communication. The detection and documentation of those persons' criminal activity is thus for the Czech police officers ever more complicated.

The most widespread NPS on the Prague drug scene are metamphetamine and heroin. There is still a great interest in marijuana and not only by persons addicted to other NPS. Metamphetamine is preferred due to its easy accessibility and acceptable price, simple manufacture, considerable concentration of illicit production facilities of the drug in the territory of the capital city of Prague and it is a favourite among NPS users. Metamphetamine production is, to a large extent, carried out from alternate sources – freely sold medicaments, e.g. Modafen. NPS production plants

are also transferred to the periphery of the capital (garden colonies) or out of the capital. The distribution of cocaine has been marked in the casinos and bars in the city centre. There is a prevailing trend of the consumers to be ever younger, who due to the need of getting the drug carry out especially property criminal activity to gain the necessary financial means (mostly it is the case of thefts). There is a growing consumption of NPS among young people connected mainly with the dance and music scene – the so-called dance drugs.

There have been recurring efforts for the legalisation of the cultivation and holding of marijuana and the enforcement of application rooms for the injection users of drugs, the so-called "shooting-up rooms". With the change in legislation and the change punishing also the possession of NPS for one's own needs, there is also the change of behaviour of the buyers as well as distributors of the NPS. The costs of NPS are high and are mostly covered from criminal activity sources. In some cases the addicted persons make money for their fix by NPS traffic, when they are rewarded in "kind", i.e. free fix of drugs for the street distributor. Heterosexual and homosexual prostitution is also quite usual among the drug addicts. In some cases when the market is saturated there is a danger of skirmishes among the individual groups of distributors or, in the worse case, war among the members of different ethnic groups for the markets.

In the territory of the capital city of Prague where there is no operational NPC – the issue of drugs, their abuse, consumption and serious organised crime in that field is dealt with by the 1st Section of the Department for the Detection of Serious General Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Czech Republic Police, Administration of the Capital City of Prague (OOZOK). This Section documented and investigated 52 drug cases in 2004. Out of that number, 39 cases were carried out in cooperation with the staff of the counter-drug sections of the individual District Directorates of the Czech Police Prague I to IV and 12 cases were investigated in the framework of their own drug operations "BORIS" aimed at the detection of street dealers. Altogether 52 offenders were accused of 68 criminal acts (Section 187 – 188a of the Criminal Code), 22 other crimes, 7 NPS production plants were destroyed. At the same time, 8 cases of death by an NPS overdose were documented. Furthermore, altogether 14 wanted persons were detained.

The Cooperation between the OOZOK of the Prague Administration with the Police Presidium Units - NPC, Special Activities Unit of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service ($\acute{\text{U}}$ ZČ) and with the service units of the Prague Administration, the same as cooperation with the state administration and self-administration authorities, units of the CR Penitentiary Service and with different health care facilities is on a good level.

Operation "DEŽO"

Since November 2003 in cooperation with the 5th Section of the General Crime Department of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service District Directorate of Prague II criminal activity carried out by the accused J.B. was investigated and documented because at his residence in Prague 5, Barrandov from winter 1997 until March 2004 he illegally possessed and repeatedly distributed NPS (marijuana and metamphetamine) to other persons including minors, for financial remuneration or

some services, e.g. he promised the drug to girls in exchange for sexual intercourse, i.e. he lured minors to sexual intercourse. J.B. injected the drugs inrtravenously to those who took the drug for the first time. Another offender J.C. sold and supplied metamphetamine repeatedly from October 2003 to March 2004 at the J.B. residence to other persons, including minors. Both offenders were investigated in cooperation with the OOK SKPV OR PCR Prague II with very good assistance from child-care authorities. During the house search of J.C. a non-transferable VISA Electron card issued in another person's name was found, a gas revolver, shot-gun ammunition, a pistol magazine, glass with gun powder and other things relating to criminal activity. The above mentioned J.B. was accused of criminal acts the Illicit manufacture and possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances and poisons pursuant to Section 187, subsection 1,2, a,b of the Criminal Code both himself as well as an accessory together with J.C. and furthermore of Seducing to sexual intercourse pursuant to provisions of Section 217a, subsection 1 of the Criminal Code. The above mentioned J.C. was accused of the criminal acts of Illicit production and possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances and poisons pursuant to Section 187, subsection 1,2 b) of the Criminal Code and the criminal act of the Illicit possession of a credit card pursuant to provisions of Section 249b of the Criminal Code. Both accused were remanded in custody.

Operation "MOR"

Since mid 2004 in cooperation with the General Crime Department of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the District Directorate of the Police of Prague IV criminal activity had been detected and documented of an organised group of 4 persons, three men and one woman, which illegally manufactured and then distributed large quantities of metamphetamine, mostly in the city ward of Prague 4. One of the men specialised in the manufacture of metamohetamine,

another one provided chemical substances and raw materials for the production and together with the third man and the woman shared in the spreading and distribution to individual users. The investigation has proved that the members of the group sold the psychotropic substance in at least 325 cases for the sum of at least 161,000 CZK. Furthermore, it was found out that the organiser of the group, a citizen of the Slovak Republic, had threatened the drug consumers in the case of non-payment for metamphetamine with serious body harm. Upon the offenders detention, a conspiracy drug manufacturing plant was seized in a garden colony and in an inn where the woman was accommodated, during a house search a large amount of metamphetamine was seized. This group of offenders was accused of the criminal acts of Illicit production and possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances and poisons pursuant to provisions Section 187, subsection 1,2 a,b, Section 187, subsection 1, Section 188, subsection 1 of the Criminal Code, the crime of Spreading of toxic substances pursuant to provisions of Section 188a, subsection 1 of the Criminal Code and the crime of Blackmail according to provisions Section 235. subsection 1,2 of the Criminal Code and put in custody. It is necessary to mention the very good cooperation during the entire operation with the OOK SKPV OR PCR Prague IV. OKTE of the Administration of the capital city of Prague, the chemical

section, who shared directly in the seizure of the laboratory for the production of metamphetamine and the very good work of the dog-handler.

CENTRAL BOHEMIAN REGION

(Police of the CR, Central Bohemian Region Administration)



Drug offenders in the Central Bohemian region do not limit themselves to the territory of the district or region, but they carry out criminal activity in several police districts at the same time and combine it with other criminal activity. From this point of view a considerable role is played by the vicinity and accessibility of the capital city of Prague, where there is a widespread network of distributors with a great fluctuation of persons and anonymity for carrying out this criminal activity.

In the territory of the region, NPS distribution is carried out partly in the place itself (immediately in the vicinity of the producer) as well as across the individual districts. Traffic in drugs is being transferred to a closer circle of clients (the dealer sells the drug only to consumers whom he knows well), to set a date for handing over the drug the dealers use mobile phones. They often change the numbers of mobile phones, give them only to a close circle of people and make use of the Internet. The handing over of the drug is then carried out under "cover manoeuvres".

The most abused drug besides the cannabis products is metamphetamine, which is available in all districts of the region. In general, among the most frequently abused NPS in the region are especially ecstasy, heroin and toluene. Out of the ethnic groups, especially the Roma share in the drug crime.

The most abused and most problematic NPS is metamphetamine and heroin in adults and cannabis in children, but in their case there is also the occurrence of metamphetamine. Drug distribution by persons younger than 18, occurred in the year 2004 almost in all the districts of the Central Bohemian region. Most often it was the case of cannabis, which was discovered among minors in basic schools in the districts of Kolín, Mělník and Rakovník. Cannabis distribution by minor persons was detected in the districts of Kladno, Kolín, Kutná Hora, Nymburk and Příbram. In the districts of Benešov, Kladno and Mladá Boleslav metampetamine distribution by minor persons was also detected. In the Kladno district a minor toluene user inflicted upon himself deadly injuries by jumping from the 11th floor of a building and another minor person provided thorn-apple to yet another minor who was taken to a hospital with hallucinations.

Among the new trends in the NPS abuse is especially the abuse and illegal distribution of substitution substances Methadone and Subutex. In Benešov also the production of brown was detected.

The most significant operations in 2004:

During the year 2004 26 metamphetamine "manufacturing plants" were liquidated in the Kladno district (10), Benešov (3), Nymburk (4), Prague-East (4), Mělník (1). The production of



"brown" was detected in one case in the district of Benešov. In the Kladno district 10 cases of the distribution of NPS into the Vinařice prison were detected. Out of this in five cases the offender has not been detected. In the Nymburk district a case of the distribution of NPS into the prison of Jiřice was investigated, as well as a group of heroin dealers. In the Prague –East district hydroponic cultivation of cannabis was detected. Out of the other drugs over that period it was ecstasy, LSD and hashish. On September 2nd, 2004, the officers of SKPV OŘ PČR Kladno seized 13 kg of ecstasy and 5 kg of hashish imported from Holland.

SOUTH BOHEMIAN REGION

(NPC branch České Budějovice)



Within the South Bohemian region there were some minor changes in comparison with the year 2003, both in the preference of the individual NPS types as well as a more active involvement of some foreign nationals in this kind of criminal activity.

The most abused drug has been metamphetamine imported mostly from North Bohemia and partly from the Moravian Silesian region. The manufacture of this drug was in 2004 to a large extent influenced by the lack of the precursor ephedrine on the black market. The producers were forced to substitute this raw material by pseudoephedrine, which they gained mostly by extractions from medicaments such as Modafen, Solutan, Paralen plus and others. This fact was then reflected in the quality of the drug, which the dealers diluted by Piracetam from the medicament called Kalikor. The metamphetamine production itself in the region was very sporadic. It was mostly the case of "domestic concocters", who have been able to manufacture the drug in a very limited quantity. As a basic raw material they use freely sold medicaments, especially Modafen. There is a continuing interest on the part of foreigners, mostly from Austria, in the drug. The individual deals are in grams or dozens of grams and there is a prevailing interest in metamphetamine made out of ephedrine. Foreign clients are willing to pay more than 1500 CZK per gram. These deals are usually an accompanying phenomenon in providing sexual services in the border areas. On the whole, there is a prevailing trend of dealing in small amounts, when the individual NPS consumers go to the dealer more often for smaller amounts.

With heroin there was a continuing trend of the decrease of the abuse of the drug by small-scale users and their switch to substitutes used in substitution treatment of drug addiction to heroin (Methadone, Subutex). There has, however, been an activation of foreigners, especially from the states of former Yugoslavia and lately also Turkey, who had been pushed out from other parts of the Czech Republic

and who have been trying to settle in the South Bohemian region and their activities are aiming at the involvement in the transit of heroin via the so called Balkans route.

Marijuana has also been among the most widespread NPS in the region. It is cultivated in the open nature by the so-called outdoor method but mostly in various buildings where hydropony is used. With this technology the quantity of the active THC substance amounts to as much as 30%. There has been an occurrence of such cultivation premises in housing blocks while the other tenants in the houses have noticed nothing suspicious.

There was a small growth in 2004 in the demand for the so called "dance drugs", especially ecstasy. It is abused especially during techno-parties, but their organisation is nowhere as massive as in other regions of the CR.

The other spectra of narcotic and psychotropic substances in the region are represented only on a very sporadic basis.

Traffic in metamphetamine is organised mostly by Czech nationals being recruited from among persons with a criminal past mostly related to drugs. Partly active in this sphere are also the Roma. Traffic in heroin is organised by ethnic Albanians and further on by persons from the states of former Yugoslavia. Arabic or West African nationals, Israelis or persons from the former Soviet Union are not considerably active in the South Bohemian region in the field of the illegal NPS production and possession.

Operation "AKI"

A group of offenders was investigated in 2004, which in various places in the Czech Republic manufactured the psychotropic substance metamphetamine using ephedrine as a raw material. The production plants had been moved from place to place to make their detection more difficult. The investigation itself took place in Prague and Western Bohemia, where a functioning water mill in the village of Rabí served as a "manufacturing plant". About half a kilo metamphetamine was detained during the operation and also ephedrine in the stage of preparation for drug production. Altogether 6 persons were accused in connection with this case, one of them was a foreigner – an Austrian citizen.

THE REGION OF PLZEŇ AND KARLOVY VARY

(NPC branch Plzeň)



The situation in the region can be briefly characterised by the growth of small-scale heroin distribution by ethnic Albanians as well as Asians. In the past years, "the middle class" dealers who had dealt with the distribution of the drug in half a kilo to several kilos had practically disappeared from the Plzeň region out of the CR territory. Furthermore, there has been a marked increase in the imports of NPS from

Holland and the arrivals of FRG citizens to buy the drug (mostly metamphetamine and heroin) in the Czech Republic. They buy it in the amount of several grams.

Among the most abused NPS in the region are metamphetamine, heroin, ecstasy and cannabis products, mostly by adult persons.

Concerning criminal activity in relation to the individual NPS there has been heroin distribution by ethnic Albanians, among the Roma in Plzeň and by Vietnamese among the Czech citizens in and around Cheb and Karlovy Vary. Heroin is brought to Plzeň mostly from Teplice and Prague. Marijuana and hashish are brought in large amounts especially from Holland by regular buses, private passenger cars as well as by rail. In the Plzeň region cocaine distribution has been detected in small amounts, usually in grams. The import of ecstasy from Holland has increased and there has been a prevailing metamphetamine production mostly from medicaments.

When characterising the criminal activities of organised criminal groups according to the individual ethnic groups, it can be stated that Czech citizens are involved especially in the production and distribution of metamphetamine and imports of XTC tablets, marijuana and hashish from Holland. Ethnic Albanians and citizens of former Yugoslavia are traditionally involved in the traffic in heroin, but there is also information about their involvement in the traffic in cocaine and metamphetamine. The Russian speaking groups and nations of the former Soviet Union are most frequently involved in metamphetamine distribution. At the end of 2004 there was a growth in heroin distribution by the Asians to the Czech citizens. Until then the Asians had been involved in the metamphetamine distribution. The Roma traditionally participate in the distribution of whatever drug is currently on offer and their customers are usually other Roma or citizens of the FRG who come for the drug personally.

Operation "JIMMY"

During this operation a citizen of former Yugoslavia was investigated who distributed heroin among Roma nationality citizens in Plzeň. On December 21st, 2004 several hundred doses of heroin and cocaine were seized. By further investigation of the case about 5kg of heroin distribution was documented in Plzeň during the past year.

Operation "KOSÁK"

On October 10th, 2004 an operation took place in the area of Sokolov and Karlovy Vary during which 8 Czech citizens were detained and accused of the illicit production and distribution of metamphetamine in the above mentioned districts. Out of them 6 persons were remanded in custody. During the operation two laboratories for metamphetamine production and several dozens of doses of the drug were seized.

THE REGION OF ÚSTÍ AND LIBEREC

(NPC Ústí nad Labem branch)



The most frequently abused drug in the territory of the Ústí and Liberec region is metamphetamine, followed by cannabis products, ecstasy and on a smaller scale by heroin. The perpetrators of serious and organised crime increase the conspiracy of their behaviour, take measures for their protection as well for the protection of their deliveries of a greater amount of NPS. Their aggression has grown, e.g. during the extortion of "fines" – debts from NPS deliveries not distributed or seized. Criminal activity in the field of NPS traffic is very closely connected with other latent crime, e.g., with prostitution and other violent crime.

The largest metamphetamine producers for the market within the CR and the illegal "exports" to the FRG, are situated around Ústí, Teplice and Most. It is a more massive "production" from ephedrine, i.e., the amount of several grams or kilograms. The labs are mobile ones and the "production" sometimes takes place in remote places. There were also some cases where the first stage of the production was carried out in nature and the other stage in buildings. Metamphetamine prices oscillate according to the quality and the amount bought between 600 and 1200 CZK per gram. The lack of ephedrine has forced also these groups to produce metamphetamine from the freely sold medicament Modafen. There has been a several hundred per cent growth of Modafen consumption in pharmacies in the Ústí region. The relatively high price of Modafen does not decrease the high profits from metamphetamine production. Organised groups of persons from former Yugoslavia are ever more involved in its production. They remain in the background, take care of the "supply" of ephedrine and of the organisation of the production and distribution. Persons from the Roma ethnic group are very actively involved in the territory of the Ústí and Liberec region in metamphetamine production and its further distribution, a significant role in the distribution is also played by persons of Vietnamese nationality.

The abuse of cannabis products, especially marijuana, is mainly a seasonal matter of young people in the age group around 15 mostly in the harvest period and ensuing distribution of home made or outdoor cultivated marijuana. There have, however, been already cases of the cultivation of cannabis products by artificial, so called "hydroponic" way.

The greatest occurrence and abuse of synthetic drugs (ecstasy) takes place at the so-called techno and house parties. The price of one tablet in the lower distribution link ranges between 100 to 200 CZK per tablet, the price of the first sale from the "producer" ranges around 70 to 100 CZK per one tablet.

There is a lower offer of heroin in the Ústí and Liberec regions, which is most probably the result of a partial transfer of the organised groups of persons from former Yugoslavia from the field of heroin to the field of metamphetamine and partial

decrease of demand for this narcotic substance. Apart from persons from former Yugoslavia also the Vietnamese are involved in heroin traffic.

The abuse of cocaine is typical for higher, business class. It has not spread among the regular "street" consumers of NPS. The price of cocaine ranges between 2,000 to 2,500 CZK per one gram according to the quality and the quantity taken. There have, however, been growing numbers of Czech citizens from the Ústí region who are hired and used as couriers – swallowers during the illegal import of cocaine into the Czech Republic, or the EU countries.

Operation "BOHÉM"

The staff of the NPC branch Ústí nad Labem in cooperation with the officers of the District Directorate of the CR Police Jablonec nad Nisou and Liberec have proved and documented criminal activity of five offenders accused of the Illicit production and possession of NPS pursuant to provisions Section 187, subsection 1,2, a), provisions Section 188, subsection 1 of the Criminal Code, who have produced and distributed metamphetamine in the territory of the Jablonec nad Nisou and Liberec districts. During the investigation three "stationary" and one mobile labs were detected and destroyed for the production of the drug. NPS, chemical substances as well as precursors for the production of NPS were seized, as well as a firearm.

Operation "OLYMP"

The staff of the NPC Ústí nad Labem branch in cooperation with the staff of the District Directorate CR Police Teplice proved and documented criminal activity of two offenders, i.e., the Illicit production and possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances and poisons pursuant to provisions of Section 187, subsection 1,2, a) of the Criminal Code, who manufactured and later on distributed metamphetamine in the territory of the Ústí region. A lab for the production of metamphetamine was detected and destroyed during the operation, as well as chemical substances and

precursors for NPS production. About 60 grams of metamphetamine, gas weapons, attack charges and cash were seized. The perpetrators made the metamphetamine out of Modafen and Nurofen Stop medicaments, which they bought in great amounts in different places. Within the operation cash in the amount of 208,500 CZK was seized and also 817 packages of MODAFEN 425 packages of the and medicament NUROFEN.



Operation "STUDENT"

The staff of the NPC branch of Ústí nad Labem in cooperation with the officers of the Police District Directorate in Most proved and documented the criminal

activities of two offenders who were accused of the Illicit production and possession of NPSP pursuant to provisions of Section 187, subsection 1,2 a) of the Criminal Code, who brough hashish to the Czech Republic from Holland and distributed metamphetamine in the CR territory. During the operation 2kg of hashish and 300 g of marijuana were seized.

The Region of Hradec Králové and Pardubice

(NPC branch Hradec Králové)



Metamphetamine made out of pseudoephedrine, extracted mostly from Modafen remains the most frequently abused and preferred drug within the region. The so called own domestic production of the drug prevails in the region, with the person who is the producer and at the same time also the distributor or he/she has a group of persons available who are involved in further distribution. The consumers thus get metamphetamine of very poor quality, diluted by different substitutes. The market price ranges according to the amount bought between 600 to 1000 CZK per gram.

Some metamphetamine has been imported from the Ústí nad Labem region, which is a very good quality drug. The samples contain some 80% of metamphetamine base. The price of this type of metamphetamine is 1200 CZK per gram.

There is a great interest in metamphetamine manufactured in the territory of the Czech Republic on the part of consumers from the FRG, who are interested especially in "Krystal", i.e. metamphetamine in pure white crystallic form. The payment takes place in cash, the deal is in greater amount and this is reflected in the price, which is 900 to 950 CZK per gram.

Yet another preference following metamphetamine is ecstasy. This drug is widespread among young people, also due to easy availability. It can be bought at dance parties and is spread also in regular street distribution. The price of ecstasy tablets ranges (the purchase of several thousand pieces) between 60 to 65 CZK, with a smaller amount the price sometimes doubles from 100 to 120 CZK. Ecstasy is imported to the region mostly from Poland and Slovakia. These are tablets where the contents of the active MDMA range from 22% to 30%.

There has also been a growth in the consumption of cannabis products. The consumers are interested in marijuana grown hydroponically. Marijuana is currently often used as a supplement to other drugs.

The main distributors of drugs in the territory of the regions are Czech nationals.

Operation "BOHATÝR"

At the beginning of March 2004 an operation took place during which two offenders were detained (Czech citizens aged 23 and 25) who distributed hashish to other persons in Pec pod Sněžkou, distr. Trutnov, which they sold for 150 CZK per 1 gram. One of the offenders was detained while selling of hashish in the amount of 2.8kg. The hashish probably came from Morocco.

Both offenders shared in the hashish traffic and brought it to the Czech Republic across the borders through travel agencies. They were accused of the criminal acts of the Illicit production and possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances and poisons pursuant to provisions of Section 187, subsection. 1,2, a) of the Criminal Code.





The REGIONS OF SOUTH MORAVIA, ZLÍN AND VYSOČINA

(NPC branch Brno)



The most frequently abused drug in the regions is metamphetamien. The production and distribution of the drug in smaller quantities of 10 to 20 grams prevails. Due to the lack of ephedrine on the illegal market there have been great changes in the production of the drug. Metamphetamine production from the medicament Modafen, as a raw material prevails. Metamphetamine from Prague and Ostrava is brought in greater amount to Brno and the whole region where the raw material for metamphetamine production is ephedrine. The price of one gram of

metamphetamine is around 1,000 CZK. Mostly Czech citizens deal in the production and distribution of the drug.

One of the greatest risks for the region is the free transit of EU citizens and free entry by foreigners. Among the most problematic group of foreigners residing in the territory of the region are persons from former Yugoslavia. In connection with the Czech criminal environment they improve the forms of criminal activities and typical is the latent form of their criminal activity as well as their brutality. The criminal activity consists in the import of heroin and cocaine to Brno and from there further distribution throughout the territory of the Czech Republic and the offenders are interlinked with other persons who are in the background of the import of drugs to the Czech Republic. This is a very close circle of persons who do not allow any strange persons to enter their group. These groups have at their disposal very high financial sums, which they invest in real estate in Brno, and move throughout the entire Czech Republic as well as abroad.

Lately there has been interlinking between the Vietnamese and former Yugoslav nationals and Roma nationals who distribute jointly heroin. Again it is a closed group of persons, who move at Vietnamese market places. Street sale of very poor quality drug, the pureness of which is 5-10% is carried out by persons of Albanian, Vietnamese and Roma nationality. The low purity of heroin is due to the fact that every dealer who comes into contact with the drug dilutes it due to the increase of financial profit. During street deals the price ranges from 1000 to 1200 CZK per gram.

One of the most popular and thus most problematic drugs is ecstasy. This drug is distributed in large amounts at so called techno-parties, which are organised in Boby Centre and in the pavilions at the Brno trade fair premises. Such parties are very popular among young people. There are usually 5 000 to 10 000 persons at such parties. The price for one XTC tablet at the party is between 150 to 250 CZK and when larger amounts are bought 50 to 80 CZK. The offenders distributing the drug import it from Holland and lately due to several successful operations they have been trying to change their modus operandi to decrease the risk of being caught.

In Brno and the South Moravian region cocaine appears more often. The latest information shows that the demand is growing and most of the cases of cocaine import are from Holland. The distribution is carried out by Czech citizens and persons from the former Yugoslavia. This drug is still very expensive and its price in Brno ranges between 1600 to 2500 CZK per gram. When imported the price is around 35€ per gram.

Operation "KRYSAŘ"

In May 2004 6 persons were investigated and detained, out of whom 2 were of

Vietnamese nationality, 2 were citizens of Afghanistan, 1 Ukrainian and one Czech citizen. All the detained persons were accused of Illegal production and possession of NPSP pursuant to provisions of Section 187, subsection. 1,2, a),



subsection 3, a of the Criminal Code. 2000 grams of very good quality heroin were seized, the purity of which amounted to 80%.

THE OLOMOUC AND MORAVIAN SILESIAN REGION

(NPC Ostrava branch)



The most frequently abused drug continues to be metamphetamine. There are fewer cases in the region when metamphetamine is made out of medicaments – such a production takes place usually in small, illegal labs and metamphetamine is designated for persons close to the producer. The number of cases, however, grows when metamphetamin is made out of ephedrine, imported probably from the countries of former Yugoslavia. Traffic in ephedrine is ever more dominated by persons of Kosovo Albanian, Albanian, Macedonian and Croat nationality. Metamphetamine made of ephedrine is partly trafficked in our territory and larger part is exported abroad, most frequently to Slovakia and the FRG (10 kg of ephedrine and 1.5 kg of metamphetamine seized by the Slovak police in cooperation with the NPC can serve as an example – on the basis of international legal assistance Operation MOST(Bridge) – carried out by the Slovak Police).

Another abused drug in the territory of North Moravia is heroin. Persons of Vietnamese nationality remain the main distributors and suppliers of the drug.

Ecstasy still remains very popular among young people. It is distributed at different parties and rock clubs. The price of one tablets ranges between 150 and 200 CZK. In 2004 a case was investigated under the cover name of COLA, in which criminal proceedings against 6 persons started for the import of ecstasy from Holland and its distribution in the area of Ostrava, Karviná and Opava.

Several cases of hydropony cultivation of marijuana were also detected and investigated within the region.

A case under the cover name of ŠPANĚL (Spaniard) was investigated in cooperation with the Department for the Detection of Organised Crime. Within this operation criminal proceedings against ten people started for drug related crimes. It was a Czech-Russian-Vietnamese group involved in the distribution of heroin and metamphetamine.

Operation "SAPA"

A group of 17 persons was detained in April 2004 within the SAPA operation. Among the 17 persons, 16 were of Vietnamese and 1 Macedonian nationality. The above mentioned group operated in the territory of the whole republic, when from Northern Bohemia and Prague they supplied heroin to Ostrava and after dilution they

sold the drugs to end users in Ostrava and its vicinity. Poor quality was typical for this heroin, when brought to Ostrava it was diluted to the contents of 10% of the active substance and it was sold for about 800 CZK per gram. When heroin was diluted less, to about 20% of the active substance, its price ranged around 1500 CZK per gram.





IX. THE METHODOLOGY AND PREVENTION GROUP OF THE NATIONAL DRUG HEADQUARTERS

The Methodology and Prevention group represents the National Drug Headquarters within the Police of the CR and in the public by teaching, educational, methodological and publication activity.

It participates within the CR Police in the creation of legislative regulations of internal character and in the framework of the Ministry of the Interior shares in the creation of legislative regulations in the field of new laws connected with the NPS issue. It also exerts considerable activity within the cooperation with the ministries and other entities during the implementation of the counter-drug policy of the state.

The activity of the Methodology and Prevention group was in the year 2004 focused especially on continuous and periodical police education in police schools. This concerned both education at the MOI schools as well as specialised lectures for policemen in service during specialised courses and also lectures at the Police Academy of the CR, both at the bachelor as well as master levels. In the framework of cooperation with the Police Academy the group in 2004 in the role of a specialised guarantor shared in a seminar organised within life-long education and was targeted at all those from the ranks of the police who showed interest. The subject of the course was the topical situation in the field of drug crime in the Czech Republic, psychological aspects of drug abuse and the issue of synthetic drugs. Education within police schools will continue also in future because as far as feedback is concerned it is guite evident that the NAC in such cases considerably boosts the quality of education, especially by topical issues, which are determined by the development and dynamics of criminal activity in the field of drugs within the whole Czech Republic. Specialised assistance in the framework of the Police of the CR was also provided by the participation of policemen from the group in the instruction

and methodology lectures, which were organised by the individual police units within the "toxi" project.

The Methodology and Prevention Group further actively cooperated with the Drug Headquarters staff to gain topical information on the state, structure and dynamics of drug crime in the CR by directly participating in its operations. At the same time, the group carried out psychological consultative activity in the framework of the detection and investigation of criminal activity.

Other activity within the unit is especially the organisation of methodical instruction for members of the NAC and preparation of significant days for the unit.

Over the past year the education of city and municipal police continued. Its main aim was to inform their management about the possibility of cooperation with the Police of the CR and it was directed at the correct approach toward the collection, interpretation and transfer of information to the PCR in such a way that it could be used further. The seminars were also directed at the municipal police officers working in the street or working in the prevention sector with the objective to have the basic knowledge in the field of drugs and drug addiction and in addressing drug addicts.

Among the activities in 2004, was traditionally the publication activity, preparation of the NPC 2005 calendar and preparation and issue of the jubilee 10th NPC Bulletin. A positive confirmation that the bulletin has its place among specialised publications was the growing interest in its distribution also outside the Police of the CR.

In May 2004, the group represented the National Drug Headquarters at the ISET 2004 exhibition, where it introduced the work of the NPC to the public. In September 2004, the group participated in the Day of the Czech Police, which took place in Prague at Letná. For that day, the staff prepared for the visitors an NPC exhibition and in cooperation with dog handlers a short presentation of the work of dog handlers in the search for drugs.

Outside the sector of the Police of the CR, the Methodology and Prevention Group participated in educational programmes for specialists. In the framework of this cooperation our staff trained selected pedagogues- school methodologists of the prevention and preventists of regional and municipal authorities. The main aim was for the prevention specialists to further supply valid information on the drug issue and contribute by their unbiased attitude to efficient prevention within the entire Czech Republic. The SMP further on cooperated on the basis of the NPC principles in the drug field with governmental and non-governmental organisations and shared in the implementation of the Czech Republic counter-drug policy.

All in all the SMP employees participated as lecturers in 2004 in 142 seminars and lectures for 4345 people.

In June 2004 the second year of the so called "Little Police Academy" was successfully completed, of which the National Drug Headquarters was a guarantor in the school year 2003/2004 in cooperation with the Preventive and Information Group of the CR Police České Budějovice. The project is planned for four years and it will be attended over that period by some 3500 children. The programme includes topics concerning bullying, truancy, aggression, religious sects, gambling, human rights, anti-social phenomena, criminal activity of children, criminal law, alcohol and non-alcohol addiction, etc. Teachers in schools draw on the individual tutorial

programmes of the police and other experts and the work with the children continues throughout the entire school year. Our aim is to contribute to the positive social behaviour of children and the rejection of the violation of law. The children partially by themselves and partially together with the teachers in the lessons work with special work-books compiled for the programme. There is a whole range of feed back in them to test the knowledge, the children acquired in the course of the school year. The successful completion of the second year has shown that only systematic work with children at elementary schools leads to positive results in this sphere and the result is a positive motivation for the Methodology and Prevention Group for the coming years. The accreditation by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Physical Training, which the project received in Autumn 2004, is a proof that the project has its rightful place in the field of primary prevention.

X. National Focal Point

The National Drug Headquarters was fulfilling again in 2004 the tasks relating to the implementation of the National Focal Point. It is a joint analytical work place of the National Drug Headquarters and the General Customs Directorate, which had been established by a supplement to the implementing protocol to the agreement between the PCR and GCD. It must be stated that during 2004 the GCD has not filled the post within the joint analytical workplace yet.

The objectives of the joint office are the following:

- to process complete statistical data for all NPS seizures and investigated offenders
- to remove duplicity of statistical data
- to guarantee that the dates in all items followed by the EMCDDA are complete
- to eliminate the possibility of parallel processing of the cases
- to enhance the coordination of cooperation with other countries

In the framework of the system of data collection within the Police of the CR a unified approach to the collection and dispatch of statistical data concerning objectives in the field of drugs was ensured by the Police President's Binding Instruction No. 102/2003 relating to measures taken by police officers in connection with drug crime. The information gained is processed and serves as back-ground material for the National Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction in the following categories:

- statistics on the drugs seized
- statistics on the offenders
- review of the purity of the drugs seized
- review of the drug prices

XI. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

International cooperation is within the activity of the NPC unit of key importance. Due to the highly international character of illegal traffic in drugs, it is impossible to imagine any other solution. Cooperation with foreign partners takes place in the field of mutual exchange of information on the individual cases and also during the verification and investigation in individual criminal files especially in the form of requests for legal assistance. With some, especially more experienced West European and American partner services we are bound by relations connected with the possibility of providing training opportunities in various fields. A considerable role in this field is played by liaison officers from foreign countries responsible for the territory of the Czech Republic, some of them have their headquarters in Prague itself.

Albania

There are no doubts that the ethnic Albanians represent on the Czech drug scene one of the most significant communities controlling traffic in heroin and lately have been engaged also in traffic in other types of drugs. There is no doubt either about the information that Albanian citizens are involved in these activities and the Albanian territory is the stepping ground for organising drug trafficking.

In February 2004 we tried to initiate direct contacts with the counter drug unit of the Albanian Interior Ministry. The NPC provided the unit with a number of topical operational information with a request for cooperation and joint verification. The result was similar as in the case of Serbia and Monte Negro. The NPC initiative received no response. It was definitely to the detriment of the course. It seems that official proclamations on the willingness of Albania to cooperate with other countries in combating trafficking in drugs get no genuine response in practice.

Belgium

In 2004 besides the usual requests and information, cooperation with Belgium focused on a case of international traffic in hashish as well as a case of international traffic in ecstasy, where the Belgian police shared in the multilateral cooperation during the clarification of ecstasy deliveries from Europe to the US. The Belgian liaison officer has his seat in Vienna which somewhat complicates contacts, nevertheless the cooperation is satisfactory.

Bulgaria

Bulgaria represents for us one of the countries placed in a strategic position on the heroin Balkans route passing through our territory. It remains a positive fact that the Bulgarian liaison police officer stationed at the Bulgarian embassy in Prague successfully organises the necessary cooperation with the Bulgarian side.

Italy

From the point of view of significance for the drug scene Italy remains a target country for courier deliveries of heroin and cocaine transiting through the Czech

Republic. Couriers are sent usually in passenger cars by road and mostly they are Czech citizens. In the background of this kind of traffic in drugs, there are usually criminal groups of ethnic Albanians and other citizens from former Yugoslavia.

In 2004, a decisive case for cooperation with Italy was legal assistance in the Titanium operation. The result of the cooperation was a success, the offenders in custody in the Czech Republic were successfully criminally prosecuted. Nevertheless, on the Italian side we often encounter especially on the part of judicial authorities tendencies to bureaucratic approach and delays. The level of cooperation has also been, unfortunately, adversely affected by the fact that the counter drug expert stationed at the embassy in Warsaw, who had been responsible also for the Czech Republic, terminated his activities and has not been replaced by another person.

Hungary

Hungary represents for us one of the countries on the northern part of the Balkans heroin route. The NPC cooperates with the counter drug unit of the Hungarian police and communication with the Hungarian side takes place without any considerable problems. Nevertheless, it is more or less an ad hoc cooperation more so than frequent or systematic. Annually there are usually two or three cases, when it is necessary to cooperate with the Hungarian colleagues. Usually this concerns exchange of information on the heroin deliveries that are to pass over the Balkans route, which by one of its branches passes also through Hungary and the Czech Republic. We have also received information on suspicious deliveries of precursors for heroin manufacture from the Czech Republic across Hungary in the southern direction along the Balkans route but in the opposite direction. Lately there has not been any significant operation underway in cooperation with Hungary.

We evaluate the mutual cooperation positively and believe that in case of need we would be able together with our Hungarian colleagues carry out quite complex forms of cooperation, as e.g. controlled delivery or joint investigation.

The FRG is undoubtedly the largest neighbouring country of the Czech

Germany

Republic and thus its significance is great. In the drug field this is reflected in the export of metamphetamine from the Czech Republic to the FRG and also in the fact the FRG is a transit country for drugs entering the Czech Republic, especially cocaine from South America, sent directly through the German harbours, or more frequently cocaine and ecstasy coming across Germany from the Netherlands. Cooperation with the FRG takes place on a long-term basis at several levels. The BKA (Federal Criminal authority) liaison officer in Prague has been of a key importance for mutual cooperation. Apart from the BKA the NPC cooperated directly with the LKA (Criminal Authorities of the Republics) or joint investigating groups "Drugs" in which also customs officers take part, most often in the neighbouring federal states Bavaria and Saxony. Quite a frequent phenomenon is cross border cooperation of NPC branches with the German criminal police authorities in the neighbouring or close-by territories. There is successful cooperation with the German colleagues within two regional working groups aimed at combating drug trafficking in Europe - the groups "STAR" and "SOUTHEAST". BKA Wiesbaden and the Bavarian LKA in Munich are involved in a significant way and the NAC regularly participates in their activities. We positively assess especially the exchange of topical information

and good personal contacts with our foreign colleagues.

The cooperation with Germany is considered to be very good and problemfree.

The Netherlands

The significance of the Netherlands for the drug scene in the Czech Republic has lately considerably grown. The Netherlands currently represents one of the main gateways for drugs to the Czech Republic. Most of the ecstasy supplies for the Czech market come from the Netherlands. In connection with the growing preference of cocaine on the Czech drug scene the Netherlands is one of the main transit countries for cocaine coming from South America and the Caribbean.

In the past, cooperation with the Dutch colleagues was not always problem-free but in 2004 the situation improved. We are convinced that this is due to the very well functioning coordination with the Dutch liaison officer stationed in Warsaw. In the year 2004 good cooperation was evidenced in the field of synthetic drugs with the Netherlands police competent teams. Promising cooperation had also been developing in the field of traffic in cocaine including operational information. There was also exchange of information and initiation of contacts on the regional level between the NPC office in Brno and the police in Utrecht in 2004.

Poland

Poland as the second largest neighbouring country represents a significant partner especially in the field of synthetic drugs. Especially in the cross-border area, there is very active cooperation of Polish and Czech criminal groups in the field of metamphetamine production. Poland seems to be also the source country for ephedrine for the Czech Republic, where there is a lack of this precursor due to the stoppage of production.

There used to be cooperation at the level of NPC branch offices, especially the one in Ostrava. Lately the cooperation with Poland has encountered some problems. Thus far it has been impossible to achieve coordinated investigation on both sides and a joint operation against cross border criminal organisations. The long-under-preparation agreement on police cooperation with Poland could positively influence the situation.

Austria

Despite the fact that Austria is a neighbouring country, cooperation is nowhere near extremely intensive. Contacts take place mainly as direct relations with Austrian police authorities, with whom we have had traditional contacts. Of some significance are also cross border relations between the NPC branches and police authorities in the neighbouring republics of the federation. The Austrian colleagues cooperated with the NPC in the above-mentioned Operation Titanium. On the whole, we assess the state of relations with Austria as satisfactory. We still believe that a speedy approval of the agreement on police cooperation with Austria, long under preparation, would bid well for mutual relations.

Rumania

Even though this is one of the countries in the traditional direction on the Balkans route, thus far the cooperation is not very extensive. In 2004 there were individual cases of prepared controlled deliveries, but due to some objective reasons the implementation did not take place. The situation in relation to Rumania considerably improved thanks to the stationing of a police liaison officer at the Rumanian Embassy in Prague.

Russia

Due to the significance of Russian criminal groups for the situation in our country, Russia is undoubtedly a significant partner for us. In addition the results of operations carried out and operational knowledge show that part of the heroin from Afghanistan to our territory arrives also via the so called Silk route, that means through the Central Asian Republics, the Russian Federation and the Ukraine.

There has been traditionally good cooperation with the Russian Federation Authorities of the Ministry of the Interior, where the NPC partner is the Operational Investigative Centre No. 14 (for combating drug trafficking). Cooperation in 2004 was based especially on the exchange of information and requests concerning the individual cases. Nonetheless, the level of coordination would make possible even more demanding and complex forms of cooperation.

Another story are relations with the newly established Federal Counter Drug Service. It is a new authority outside the Ministry of the Interior structure with wide and thus far not clarified powers. The NPC has repeatedly asked for information from the authority through the Czech Police liaison officer in Moscow, following the authority's own requests to NPC in certain matters. Unfortunately, communication with this unit is not running well and the problems are evidently on the Russian side. Together with the liaison officer, we have been striving for improvement of the situation.

A positive role in contact with the Russian Federation is played by the Czech Police liaison officer in Moscow.

Nordic Countries

The Nordic countries have traditionally been and are the target of courier deliveries of heroin and cocaine controlled by the Albanian or Turkish criminal structures. There are also links between the Czech Republic and the Nordic states in the field of Synthetic drugs.

We traditionally positively evaluate cooperation with the Nordic countries. It is mainly due to the stationing of a Nordic liaison officer in Prague, who plays an irreplaceable role in contacts with these countries. Therefore, we have been unpleasantly surprised by the recent information on the termination of the Nordic liaison officer function in Prague and on the intention to use contacts through Europol. We do not consider this to be a good solution of the situation.

In 2004 apart from the regular requests and checks carried out through the Nordic liaison officer there has been cooperation on a case of heroin and cocaine traffic organised by Albanians to Norway and further on cooperation with Sweden on the case of Vietnamese criminal groups suspected of involvement in the heroin traffic.

Slovakia

In 2004 there has been good cooperation with the Slovak counter drug unit within the traditional direct contacts. The volume of cooperation with regard to the historical common roots and very lively transport and trade seems to be surprisingly low. In the framework of operational exchange of police information, we have, for example, cooperated on a case of cocaine traffic.

United Kingdom

The above the standard cooperation in relation to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is thanks to the fact that it has had a well functioning liaison officer at the embassy in Prague. The cooperation in 2004 concentrated mainly on cases of traffic in synthetic drugs (metamphetamine, ecstasy) and furthermore traffic in cocaine, which has been marked by successful exchange of operational information. The level of contacts with the United Kingdom allows for the use of all forms of cooperation including demanding and complex ones.

In the field of training, in cooperation with the National Criminal Intelligence Service in London a project aimed at the training of criminal analytical experts continued in 2004.

The United States

Cooperation with the US is traditionally on a very good level, especially through the DEA branch office in Berlin responsible also for the Czech Republic territory. The cooperation with that agency is based on personal contacts and has been problem free.

In 2004 the most important operation in cooperation with the DEA has been a major case of international traffic in ecstasy reaching from Europe to the US, in the organisation of which also Czech nationals were involved. Apart from our and US police forces also colleagues from the Netherlands, Israel, Belgium and Germany have been involved in the operation. Cooperation with the DEA has been successful also at the level of the exchange of operational information.

Similarly as in the previous years also in 2004 the US provided the NPC with valuable assistance by organising training concerning specific problems of police work in the field of drugs, which took place in the unit in May not only with the participation of our members but also the Customs Administration staff.

Serbia and Monte Negro

The federation of the two countries of former Yugoslavia represents an area of interest for us. Serbia and Monte Negro are connected with our republic by contacts between their criminal structures with the Czech ones in the traffic in heroin, especially with the participation of the Kosovo and other ethnic Albanians, as well as by traffic in synthetic drugs and precursors.

The NPC has repeatedly tried to initiate direct cooperation on concrete cases with the counter-drug authority of the Serbian Interior Ministry. The Serbian side has been provided with quite extensive operational information. Despite loud assurances by the Serbian side at the official level of the willingness to cooperate, the NPC efforts in this direction have thus far brought no results, which is to the detriment of the matter.

The Ukraine

The Ukrainian citizens represent in our Republic together with the Vietnamese following the Slovaks probably the most numerous foreign community. A great number of Ukrainians from the Western part of the country, namely from Transcarpathia work in our territory either on a legal or illegal basis as unqualified or less qualified workers. The movement of persons from the Ukraine to the Czech Republic and the other way round is quite considerable. This creates good conditions for different types of illegal activities including traffic in drugs. The Ukraine lies definitely on the route of the heroin transport from Afghanistan through Central Asia and Russia to our country and to Europe in general.

The level of cooperation with the Ukrainian side does not correspond to the significance of the Ukraine as a territory. The exchange of information was carried out through the regular Interpol channels and sometimes also through the Ukrainian Embassy in Prague. At the end of 2004, a new liaison Czech Police officer was stationed in Kiev. He could become an impulse for the improvement of international cooperation with the Ukraine upon winning over the necessary local contacts.

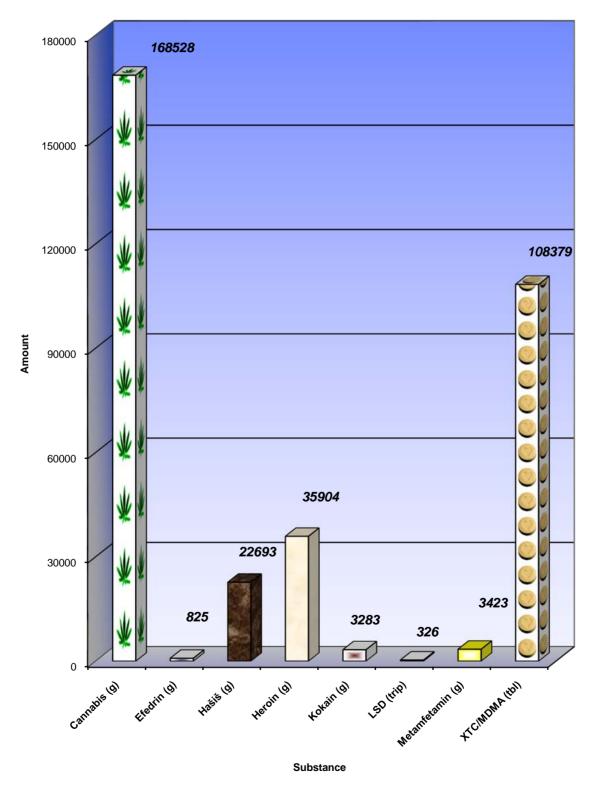
STATISTICAL DATA

Czech Republic 2004 - amount of NPS detected

Substance	Amount
Amphetamine (g)	47
Amphetamine (tbl)	14
Anabolics (tbl)	318
Braun (ml)	1000
Cannabis (g)	168528
Cannabis-plants	1617
Cannabis-seedlings	118
Cannabis-seeds(g)	98
Clonazepam (g)	1
Diazepam (tbl)	44
Ephedrine (g)	825
Hashish (g)	22693
Heroin (g)	35904
Codein (g)	4
Cocaine(g)	3283
LSD (trip)	326
Psilocybe (g)	107
Base solution (I)	20
Metamphetamine (g)	3423
Metamphetamine (tbl)	200
Morphine (ml)	11
Neurol (tbl)	30
Opium	2
Paracetamol	35000
Plant growing facility	14
Pseudoephedrine (g)	89
Rohypnol (tbl)	57
Subutex (tbl)	1
Toluen (ml)	2000
Valoron (ml)	2
Manufacturing plant - metamphetamine	248
XTC/MDMA (g)	25
XTC/MDMA (tbl)	108379

source Police of the Czech Republic, General Customs Directorate

Czech Republic 2004 - amount of NPS seized



Czech Republic 2004 - statistic data in the field of NPS

Investigated	1913
Offenders	2172
Unknown offenders	305

Czechs	2037	tj. 94%
Foreigners	135	tj. 6%

Nationality	Numbers
Afghani	2
Albanian	2
Algerian	2 2 3 3
American	3
Armeinian	1
Belgian	1
Bulgarian	1
Czech	2037
French	5
Georgian	1
Dutch	1
Croat	2
Israeli	1
Yugoslav	9
Canadian	1

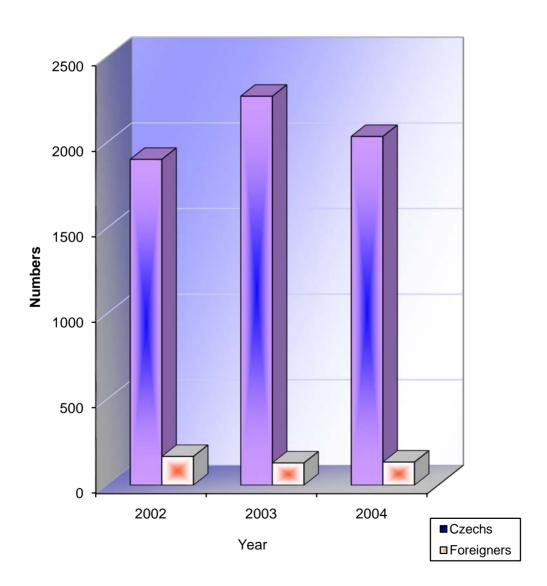
Nationality	Numbers
Latvian	1
Macedonian	4
Mexican	1
Moldovan	1
German	5
Nigerian	1
Polish	3
Austrian	4
Russian	4
Slovak	16
Spanish	7
Tunisian	5
Turkish	5 2
Turkmenian	1
Ukrainian	7

In connection with drug related criminal activy 5 German nationals were detained, three in connection with NPS metamphetamine



Czech Republic - comparison of the number of offenders

	Czechs	Foreigners
2002	1903	168
2003	2272	130
2004	2037	135



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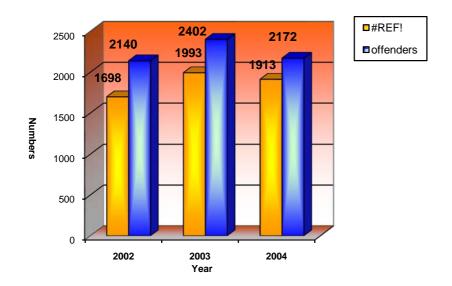
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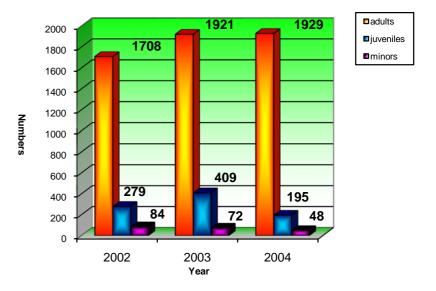
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Czech Republic-comparison of the number of cases detected and the number of offenders

	cases detected	offenders	NP
2002	1698	2140	231
2003	1993	2402	232
2004	1913	2172	305

	adults	juveniles	minors
2002	1708	279	84
2003	1921	409	72
2004	1929	195	48





Czech republic-NPS prices 2004

NPS	Price in CZK pe	r gram	Price in CZK per	gram
NP3	street traffic1	ø ²⁾	large scale traffic2	ø ²⁾
Amphetamine (g)	600 - 1200	920	500 - 1000	670
Diazepam (tbl)	5-10/1tbl	7,5		
Ecstasy	100-500	230	50 - 200	120
Hashish	150-500	280	100-250	150
Heroin	800-1800	1050	400-1500	760
Brown/1 ml	100	100		
Cocaine	1500 - 3000	2300	1500-2300	1800
LSD/Halucinogens	70-300	170	80 - 200	125
Marijuana	20-300	170	30-250	85
Marijuana - scunk	100-350	225	30-250	140
Metamphetamine	400-2000	1100	350 - 1000	740
Opium 1ml	100	100	50-70	60
Rohypnol	10-50/1tbl	30		
Subutex 2mg	100-200	165		
Subutex 8mg	250-300	275		

The range of prices according to data from individual districts
 Average calculated from all prices provided by the individual districts

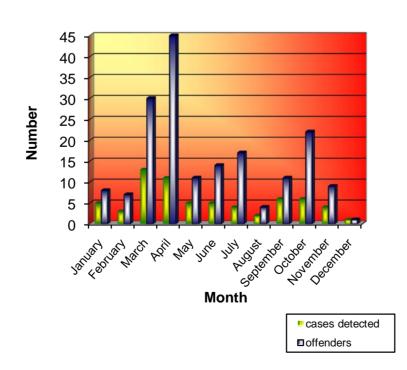
Division of the number of NPC detected cases in 2004 in view of the Criminal Code provisions

Month		Section of the Criminal Code															
	187/1	187/2a	187/2b	187/3a	187/3b	187/3c	187/4a	187/4b	187/4c	187a/1	187a/2	188/1	188/2a	188/2b	188/2c	188a/1	188a/2
JANUARY	8	7					1										
FEBRUARY	7	7		3					1							3	
MARCH	27	21	8	2					3			6	3			1	1
APRIL	45	42		5					7							19	
MAY	10	9	1	6	1												
JUNE	13	13	8									8					
JULY	17	17							5							10	
AUGUST	5	5							3								
SEMPTEMBER	10	9							5			2					
OCTOBER	22	20	1		1				7							6	
NOVEMBER	9	7	4														
DECEMBER	1																
TOTAL	174	157	22	16	2	0	1	0	31	0	0	16	3	0	0	39	1

Section	Number
187	174
187a	0
188	16
188a	39

NPC 2004 - Number of cases detected and number of offenders

	cases detected	offenders
January	5	8
February	3	7
March	13	30
April	11	45
May	5	11
June	5	14
July	4	17
August	2	4
September	6	11
October	6	22
November	4	9
December	1	1
TOTAL	65	179



Administrative delicts in the field of alcoholism and other toxic addiction

Region	Number of administrative delicts	Heard in administrative proceedings	Admonition	Fine	Prohibition to undertake activity	Confiscation of a thing	Deferred, suspended or transfered to another authority	Not dealt with yet	Transfered to law enforcement bodies	Fines - Total CZK
Capital City of Prague	79	42	0	40	0	40	42	10	4	52 100
Cent. Bohem. Region	73	38	5	36	0	37	29	10	1	52 700
South Bohemian	57	34	0	32	0	31	23	3	2	47 500
West Bohemian	106	60	3	55	0	53	31	12	5	116 500
North Bohemian	142	60	8	42	0	55	87	20	2	36 800
East Bohemian	168	107	6	102	0	49	44	27	0	153 100
South Moravidan	229	211	18	135	0	155	75	20	5	512 400
North Moravian	104	75	6	66	0	69	42	5	0	102 000
TOTAL	958	627	46	508	0	489	373	107	19	1 073 100

SOURCE: PP CR Administrative activities directorate

substance	seized
Cannabis - plants	<i>3 125</i>
Cannabis (g)	77 816,90
Ephedrine (g)	<i>7 648,70</i>
Hashish (g)	64805
Heroin (g)	9135,2
LSD (trip)	65
LSD (ml)	7,8
Metamphetamine - psan	11
Metamfetamin (g)	9630
XTC/MDMA (g)	4 850,80
XTC/MDMA (tbl)	51 691,5
Cocaine (g)	2533,6